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Generosity: Give It, Receive It, and Keep It

           Is it odd to pass someone by on the street or down the hall and say nothing? Absolutely not and in fact, it's quite common. Ignorance is a common trait amongst most people who see it as an easy way to avoid having a confrontation with someone they are not comfortable with. Having the decency to even murmur "Hi" to the stranger walking next to you is the simplest of gestures a person can make to pass on the concept of generosity. Generosity is almost forgotten it seems, from your neighbor next door to humans as a whole. Generosity should not be taken for granted because it would surprise me to find a single person who wouldn't enjoy a friendly "Hello." Any friendly gesture from someone should be greatly appreciated because what many people tend not to realize is that a handshake or hug is an expression of care, consideration, and love. And most importantly, without a world filled with "Hellos" and hugs, we would simply be stuck in a world filled with despair, dreariness, and silence..

           I believe that generosity is the building block towards eternal love, sympathy, and righteousness for mankind. Even if everyone, someone can live by my 3 H’s: Hello, Handshake/Hug, and Have a Great Day, I guarantee each and every person that tries one of these 3 H’s will feel better about themselves as a person. The simple fact is that most, if not everyone enjoys happiness, and therefore by showing compassion towards another individual, generosity can be spread throughout the human race. Think about how many lives you could make a difference in by just merely greeting someone in the morning or shaking someone’s hand you haven’t seen recently. It may seem as though it is just a casual “Hey, How are ya?” but in reality that gesture of generosity you leave on someone can truly transform the way people perceive you as an individual. Would you rather be thought of as a grump with no personality whatsoever, or a caring individual with a great personality that anyone can admire? Generosity, the choice is yours.

           Have you ever noticed the first thing a waitress says to you as she comes to wait on you at your table? What does the cashier say when you finish making your purchases? How about that irritating telemarketer who consistently keeps calling your house wondering when the last time you watched television was? All three of these situations have one thing common: An affable greeting or closure is accompanied with each circumstance. How would you feel if the waitress at Friday’s came to your table and didn’t bother to greet you warmly and ask you what you would like to drink? Subconsciously you probably would not think much of it but in reality isn’t it much more amicable to have someone greet you personally? The absence of generosity is prevalent everywhere and I recognize this first hand. I work a job where I feel privileged to greet people in the morning, afternoon, and early evening, and even conclude with a sincere “Have a great day/evening” when they leave the store. Making the effort to be generous towards people makes me feel good inside and gives me the confidence to know I’m a good-hearted being.

            Are you convinced that generosity can change you into a better person? I challenge you to do one of the 3 H’s and see what comes of it. You may find that you get a polite response back and it really reflects on you that, “Wow, that actually felt kind of heart-warming!” Generosity isn’t artificially made, you know? So try to make some for yourself and spread the gift of generosity to everyone you meet.